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Following the practice of Oppenheim, Wilson, and other recent writers on international law, Admiral Stockton has embodied in the text extensive quotations from the various Hague conventions and a large part of the Declaration of London. In view of the indefinite status of the Hague conventions and of the Declaration of London, the embodiment of their rules in a textbook appears to be unfortunate. As to the status of the Hague conventions during the present war even government officials seem to be hopelessly at sea, while it has been conceded by all parties that the Declaration of London as such is not now in force. It is true, of course, that the Declaration represents an attempt on the part of a conference of experts of wide reputation and unquestioned ability to codify the existing rules of international law relating to maritime warfare, but on some points where English and American practice was widely at variance with that of the continental Powers, the framers of the Declaration undertook to lay down definite rules, and the rules so laid down have not been agreed to by all the powers. The Declaration, therefore, carries with it merely the authority of the delegates who participated in the conference, and not necessarily the sanction of the powers they represented. In view of the wholly unexpected developments of the present war, it seems likely that the rules of maritime warfare will have to be again thoroughly revised. The present volume, as well as several other recent textbooks which are made up so largely of concrete statements of rules, will in all probability be rendered entirely obsolete, whereas many of the older treatises dealing more largely with the discussion of fundamental principles and cases will always possess a certain value.

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TOUT, T. F. *The Place of the Reign of Edward II in English History.* Pp. xvi, 421. Price, \$3.50. New York: Longmans, Green and Company, 1914.

The traditional conception of Edward II, Professor Tout leaves unaltered. "There is," he says, "little fresh to be said as to the personal deficiencies of the unlucky Edward II" (p. 9); but the commonly accepted *dictum* of Stubbs concerning the reign, that "outside of the dramatic crisis it may be described as exceedingly dreary" (*Chronicles of the Reigns of Edward I and Edward II*, II, lxxv), Professor Tout refutes once for all. The opinion of the bishop of Oxford reflects accurately enough the impression created by the narrative and documentary sources which had been printed when his opinion was formed, if they be studied from the standpoint that by far the most important institutional development of the period was that of parliament. Professor Tout has gone far behind these sources and has dug deeply into the mass of unpublished manuscripts written by clerks of Edward's chancery, exchequer, and wardrobe. He looks at the reign through the medium of these records and concludes that it was a turning-point of fundamental significance in the administrative history of the latter middle ages. To the establishment of this point of view he devotes the major portion of his book.

As a preliminary to the administrative history of Edward II's reign, Professor Tout describes the system which Edward II inherited from his father. His chapter on this subject is intended only as a sketch; nevertheless it contains the best survey known to me of the administrative machinery of the chancery, exchequer, and wardrobe as it existed at the close of the thirteenth century and the

only clear statement of the relations of the wardrobe to the other two departments. The wardrobe was a well organized department of the household which duplicated in part the functions of the chancery and the exchequer, the two great departments of state. The existence of the wardrobe may be explained partly by the customary lack of organization common in mediaeval administrative systems. But there was another reason. By the time of Edward I the exchequer and the chancery practically were independent of the household and consequently subject more easily to influence from the barons when they might attempt to check the royal power. The officials of the wardrobe, on the other hand, were still in close personal contact with the king and more likely to be amenable to his will. The significance of this distinction becomes apparent at once when Professor Tout deals with the baronial activities of the reign of Edward II. This he does at some length, largely from the viewpoint of the personal changes wrought in the offices of state and household. Old evidence is weighed in this new balance and combined with much new material to yield a story of these struggles more intelligible and more interesting than any previously told. It appears obvious that the ordainers understood the necessity of controlling the household as well as the offices of state, if any progress were to be made with reform. They had little success, however, and it was only after Pembroke's middle party had gained power in 1318 that any extensive changes were made in the personnel of the household. With the triumph of the middle party there began also an attempt to reorganize the household on an extensive scale. This effort was continued despite the reaction of 1322 and was accompanied thereafter by a reform of the exchequer. "The result . . . was to establish the royal household as it existed for the rest of the middle ages, and in most respects as it continued until Burke's economical reforms in 1782" (p. 157).

The chief reforms accomplished, as Professor Tout describes them, were in the direction of delimitation and differentiation of functions. Because the ordainers objected to the control of the privy seal by the controller of the wardrobe, Edward somewhat unwillingly allowed the appointment of a keeper. The office of the privy seal thus created became a sub-department of the household separate from the wardrobe, and so was begun the development which ultimately removed the privy seal from the household entirely and made it like the great seal, a seal of state. Before this evolution had been accomplished, however, a new personal seal had made its appearance. For the purpose of eluding the baronial attempt to secure control of the finances for the exchequer, Edward II revived the chamber which had long been dormant. It became virtually a royal privy purse independent of the exchequer and a secretarial department of the household in possession of a secret seal distinct from the privy seal. The wardrobe, on the other hand, had its activities limited. The revival of the chamber and the separation of the privy seal deprived it of many powers and the household ordinances of 1318 and 1323 ended its supervision of several outlying offices (*e.g.*, the great wardrobe and the butlery) by making them accountable directly to the exchequer. This was the beginning of a decline which before the end of the century had made the wardrobe actually the "wardrobe of the king's household." In the chancery Professor Tout finds fewer changes than elsewhere. The innovations in the exchequer which occupy his attention chiefly were in

the methods of transacting business and keeping accounts. Here as in the household he sees an important turning-point.

There is little doubt that Professor Tout has established his main thesis. It may be true that he has stressed too much the importance of some administrative changes of Edward II's reign. The reforms of the exchequer of Edward I, for example, were probably more important relatively in comparison with those of Edward II than may be gathered from Professor Tout's statement. Final judgment must be withheld until we have a fuller knowledge of the administrative system as it existed both before and after the reign of Edward II than the chronological limits of Professor Tout's present work permit him to furnish us. Doubtless his promised study on the history of the wardrobe, chamber, and small seals will supply the essential detailed evidence. But though further research may alter the emphasis placed on some aspects of the subject, it is not likely to affect materially the conclusion that the reign of Edward II is "the point in which the marked differentiation of what may roughly be called 'court administration' and 'national administration' first became accentuated" (p. vii).

Professor Tout maintains further that the reign of Edward II is of prime significance in several other fields of development. His belief that "the ineffectiveness of Edward II's reign made permanent the constitutional machinery of the reign of Edward I, and so began that differentiation between English and French history which certainly did not exist under Edward I, but was clearly evident under Edward III" (p. 33) receives illustration in the chapters devoted primarily to administrative history. Two final chapters are concerned with external and ecclesiastical policies; warfare, and social and economic conditions. These subjects are passed over summarily mainly by way of suggestion, although room is found to give to the staple and to the relations of Clement V to Gascony the most complete treatment they have yet received. The conclusions stated here are for the most part more tentative in character. In a field such as the relations between England and Scotland the main facts are perhaps sufficiently well known to render unnecessary the production of new evidence before making deductions, but such a topic as the nature of the relations between England and the papacy cannot be settled till we have much more evidence than Professor Tout offers. These chapters, however, were written rather with the hope of stimulating others to enter profitable neglected fields of investigation than with the intention of attempting a thorough survey (p. 205), and for this purpose they are well adapted.

The book is supplied with two long appendices which contain a reliable text of the household ordinances of 1318 and 1323 and an invaluable list of the holders of administrative and judicial offices during the reign. There is also an ample index.

The extent of Professor Tout's contribution cannot be measured solely by the number of new facts he has presented, great as that number is. His is a pioneer work of exceptionally high quality. He has not only blazed a broad trail into a nearly virgin forest; but he has also indicated numerous bypaths which may be followed by others to fertile but uncultivated fields, and he has harvested a bountiful crop in the large clearing which he has made for himself. He has made it impossible longer to ignore the great part played by the administrative organs in the development of the English constitution of the later middle ages. And not

the least of his accomplishments is to rescue the reign of Edward II from the undeserved position of comparative insignificance which it has hitherto occupied.

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VEDDER, HENRY C. *The Gospel of Jesus and the Problems of Democracy.* Pp. ix, 410. Price, \$1.50. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1914.

This is an interpretation of the message of Jesus to the twentieth century. The author discusses in the light of a "reconstructed theology" the problem of social justice, the woman problem, the problem of the child and the problems of the slum, vice, crime, disease, poverty and lawlessness. The treatment of each topic, though necessarily brief, is brought down to date. The style is vigorous and popular. There is no uncertainty in Dr. Vedder's mind as to what the attitude of Jesus would be toward any of the above problems nor is the reader left in doubt as to what the author considers that attitude to be. There is so much that is splendid about the broad social spirit that pervades the book and so much that reveals a sincere and dauntless effort on the part of Dr. Vedder to give us a new glimpse of a vitalized Christianity that one regrets to detract from the merits of the undertaking. One wishes that certain passages of which the following is illustrative showed a firmer grasp of the science of economics: ". . . when all forms of profit, and especially rent, dividends and interest, will be recognized as profoundly immoral, since all alike violate the law 'Thou shalt not steal.'" A little more clear thinking and a little less dogmatism on such an economic question as the justification of interest which is at least debatable, would have given Dr. Vedder's main message greater weight with many people equally interested with him in the common welfare.

Again to no advantage the author alienates another group of readers by so sweeping a statement as that "It is estimated that \$1,500,000,000 is spent by the business world every year in advertising, of which every cent is economic waste. . . ." The waste of advertising is so enormous that there is no excuse for stating that the waste amounts to 100 per cent when most students of the subject agree that advertising which is educational serves a truly social purpose.

Despite the above shortcomings which have arisen from a blind adherence to the economics of Karl Marx, the book is well worth reading. It has the merit of challenging thought.

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WALLAS, GRAHAM. *The Great Society.* Pp. xii, 383. Price, \$2.00. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1914.

This book is a companion, and in some particulars, a sequel to the author's *Human Nature in Politics* published in 1908. In this volume the broader scope of social organization is reviewed on its psychological side. It is an attempt to analyze collective human behavior within the tremendously complex conditions of *The Great Society*—a term used to describe our interrelated and interdependent social life created by the industrial revolution as contrasted with the simpler